

REG # 5908

Valerie Levin

From: Sean King
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2011 3:02 PM
To: 'Jim_Long@thune.senate.gov'
Subject: Re: Taiwan F-16 letter

This material is distributed by Park Strategies, LLC on behalf of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO) in the United States. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Dear Jim,

As of 2:30pm, the now 37 senators below have signed on.

Again, it's my understanding Sens. Inhofe/Menendez will likely send it out upon reaching 40.

Thanks,
Sean King

1. Robert Menendez(D-NJ)
2. James Inhofe(R-OK)
3. Jon Kyl (R-AZ)
4. Dan Coats(R-IN)
5. Ron Wyden (D-OR)
6. Tom Coburn (R-OK)
7. Roger Wicker (R-MS)
8. John Cornyn (R-TX)
9. John Barrasso(R-WY)
10. Tim Johnson (D-SD)
11. Joe Manchin(D-WV)
12. Jeff Sessions(R-AL)
13. Joe Lieberman(I-CT)
14. John Boozman(R-AR)
15. Richard Blumenthal(D-CT)
16. John Hoeven(R-ND)
17. Saxby Chambliss(R-GA)
18. Kay Bailey Hutchison(R-TX)
19. Charles Grassley(R-IA)
20. Scott Brown(R-MA)
21. Thad Cochran(R-MS)
22. Johnny Isakson(R-GA)
23. Marco Rubio(R-FL)
24. Sherrod Brown(D-OH)
25. Jim Webb(D-VA)
26. Ben Cardin(D-MD)
27. Jon Tester(D-MT)
28. John McCain(R-AZ)
29. Jim Risch(R-ID)
30. Lindsey Graham(R-SC)
31. Mike Johanns(R-NE)
32. Richard Burr(R-NC)
33. Bill Nelson(D-FL)
34. David Vitter(R-LA)
35. Jim DeMint(R-SC)
36. Mike Crapo(R-ID)

2011 JUN -7 AM 11:10

37.Barbara Mikulski(D-MD)

----- Original Message -----

From: Long, Jim (Thune) <Jim_Long@thune.senate.gov>
To: Sean King
Sent: Mon May 23 14:39:30 2011
Subject: RE: Taiwan F-16 letter

Thanks Sean. Can you give me an idea as to who is signing the letter?

From: Sean King [mailto:sking@parkstrategies.com]
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2011 2:32 PM
To: Long, Jim (Thune)
Subject: RE: Taiwan F-16 letter

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Dear Jim,

Thanks very much for getting back to me. I've heard the two offices might send it as soon as they hit 40 signatures. They were at 32 as of last Friday, but I don't have the absolute latest count. TECRO indicated they might hit 40 as soon as this Wednesday.

Kindest regards,

Sean King

From: Long, Jim (Thune) [mailto:Jim_Long@thune.senate.gov]
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2011 2:14 PM
To: Sean King
Subject: RE: Taiwan F-16 letter

2011 JUN -7 AM 11:11
HOFES, AETD, ATOM
UNIT

Sean,

Do you have a timeline on this--when does Senator Inhofe's Office need to hear back?

Thanks,

Jim

From: Sean King [mailto:sking@parkstrategies.com]
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2011 12:27 PM
To: Long, Jim (Thune)
Subject: FW: Taiwan F-16 letter

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Dear Jim,

As per my voicemail, please see below. Your front desk told me you'd likely be covering this matter for Jason Van Beek in his absence. As I also mentioned in my message, Park Strategies, LLC and I are registered with the U.S. Department of Justice, under the Foreign Agents Registration Act, as agents on behalf of our client, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO) in the United States.

Thanks,

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From: Sean King
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2011 11:27 AM
To: 'jason_vanbeek@thune.senate.gov'
Subject: Taiwan F-16 letter

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Dear Jason,

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Taiwan Senate Caucus Chairmen Senators Menendez and Inhofe have authored the attached letter urging President Obama to sell F-16s to Taiwan. Please accept my apologies in advance if you've already been approached on this matter, but might Senator Thune consider adding his signature to it? You can contact Kiersten Powers, Kiersten_Powers@Inhofe.Senate.Gov, in Senator Inhofe's office if Senator Thune wishes to sign. Thanks in advance for your kind consideration.

Best wishes,

Sean King | Park Strategies | www.parkstrategies.com

101 Park Avenue | New York, NY 10178 | USA

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<mailto:%7C*sking@parkstrategies.com>

Suite 211, 2F, #97, Dunhua S. Rd., Sec. 2 | Taipei | Taiwan, R.O.C.

(+886 (2) 7711-1020|7+886 (2) 7711-7288

2011 JUN -7 AM 11:11
HON/CEB/LEI
CMB

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Attachments: 110511_F-16s_Taiwan.docx

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May 11, 2011

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to express serious concern about the military imbalance in the Taiwan Strait. To maintain peace and stability in the Strait, it is critical that your administration move quickly to notify Congress of the sale of 66 F-16 C/D aircraft that Taiwan needs in order to modernize its air force.

Successive reports issued by U.S. and Taiwanese defense authorities clearly outline the direct threat faced by Taiwan as a result of China's unprecedented military buildup. Beijing presently has more than 1,400 missiles aimed at Taiwan, and China is in the process of deploying next generation Chinese and Russian manufactured ships, fighter aircraft, and submarines. Military experts in both Taiwan and the United States have raised concerns that Taiwan is losing the qualitative advantage in defensive arms that has long served as its primary military deterrent against China.

Taiwan desperately needs new tactical fighter aircraft. Within the next decade Taiwan will retire 70% of its fighter force structure. Its F-5s have reached the end of their utility, its Mirage fighters lack parts and life-cycle support, and its Indigenous Defense Fighters are being converted to a trainer role. Additionally, Taiwan's existing 145 F-16 A/B fighters all require a mid-life upgrade. With F-16s already in its inventory, Taiwan is seeking to combine its fighter fleet around a single airframe with the commensurate cost and operational benefits.

We are deeply concerned that further delay of the decision to sell F-16s to Taiwan could result in closure of the F-16 production line, and urge you to expedite this defense export process before the line closes. Without new fighter aircraft and upgrades to its existing fleet of F-16s, Taiwan will be dangerously exposed to Chinese military threats, aggression and provocation, which pose significant national security implications for the United States.

The Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) of 1979 directs both the Congress and the President to make decisions on arms sales to Taiwan based solely on the "judgment of the needs of Taiwan," and we believe that Taiwanese pilots, flying Taiwanese fighter aircraft manufactured in the United States, represent the best first line of defense for our democratic ally, while presenting no offensive threat to China.

We urge you to act swiftly and provide Taiwan with the F-16 C/D aircraft that are critical to meeting our obligations pursuant to the TRA and to preserving peace and security in the Taiwan Strait.

Sincerely,

ROBERT MENENDEZ
United States Senator

JAMES INHOFE
United States Senator